

**Letter from Walter Bagot to Mr. Skipwith (Jane Skipwith's brother), 1611: autograph manuscript draft, Papers of the Bagot family of Blithfield, Staffordshire. Transcription by Early Modern Manuscripts Online (EMMO). MS L.a.135, Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.**

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Sir I did wryte vnto my much esteemed Lady your mother in lawe in September last desiringe to bee satisfied from her whether there were ether mariadge or contracte past betwixt my disobedient sonne and my neece your sister or not *which at that time* I greatly suspected. I receaued her <sup>^kynd</sup> answer ~~whiteh~~ I doe not suspecte but shee playnly thought to bee true *which* in respecte of that reuerend opinion I hold of her virtues I will not suspecte but <sup>^at</sup> yt <sup>that time</sup> was the pleane truthe ~~which was~~ (a denyall of boath) first in her owne opinion and secondly by my neece in her *letters* with a protestacion that she wold neauer hereafter geve eare vnto any such motion. Callinge to remembrance her fathers *letters* whoe advised her euer to bee thankfull to her frendes. Not withstandinge her protestacions my gracelesse sonne now affirmeth there is such promise past betwixt them as can not bee reuoked. Hee hath withdrawen his obediense from mee and hath continewed in a base infamose place in Godwins howse <sup>^in london</sup> since Christmas last till Saturdaye last, ~~Sheweth him~~ Chardged to bee the father of a bastard Child begotten on a base Strumpet seruant vnto a gentlewoman of this Contrie and taken in bed with her Cooke a married man. for this his wicked lyfe his obstinate disobediense and infinite others lewde condicions I have reiected him ~~and are~~ purposed <sup>^singe</sup> god willinge to disinherit him) And whilst I liue meane to withdrawe ~~my~~ <sup>^all my</sup> maynteanance from him. Yf these shewe the fruites of true affeccion vnto my neece I praye god send them as much ioye together as I receaue Comfort by them. Thus much I thought good out of my loue to make you acquainted with whome you acquainted and herewith I leaue to <sup>^it shall please you to imparte yt to</sup> I leaue to your good consideracion And so rest. your louinge vnckle

leaf 1 verso